

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<b>In re Application of:</b>	<b>Michael Austin</b>
<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>09/966686</b>
<b>Filed:</b>	<b>October 1, 2001</b>
<b>For:</b>	<b>A Method and Apparatus for Contracting, Loading or Crimping Self-Expanding and Balloon Expandable Stent Devices</b>
<b>Examiner:</b>	<b>Marc Jimenez</b>
<b>Group Art Unit:</b>	<b>3726</b>

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.: S63.2N-7405-US02

## AMENDMENT

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated October 30, 2003.

If an extension of time is required to make this response timely and no separate petition is enclosed, Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time sufficient to make the response timely. In the event that this response requires the payment of government fees and payment is not enclosed, please charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

Please amend the application as follows:

02/18/2004 NBAILEY1 00000003 220350 - 09966686

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## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

TO: Examiner Jimenez

DATE: January 30, 2004

FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9306

TIME: 2:50pm

GROUP ART UNIT: 3726

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover letter): 12

Following please find a 11 page Amendment in addition to this 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.

If a fee is required, Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350 for any required fees. To the extent that any petition is required to consider this communication, please treat this as such a petition.

Respectfully Submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT &amp; STEINKRAUS, P.A.

Date: January 30, 2004

By: Brendan C. Babcock

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## Certificate of Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9306, on January 30, 2004.

Signature: Rebecca M. Painschab

Rebecca M. Painschab